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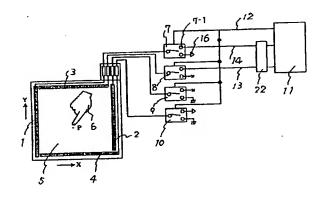
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	平成8年(1996)11月28日	(72)発明者		

(54) 【発明の名称】 座標入力装置

(57)【要約】

【課題】 抵抗分圧式タッチパネルでの座標検出において、入力待ちでの消費電力を抑える。

【解決手段】 一方の面に透明導電膜を有するプラスッチック基板とガラス基板をスペーサーを介して対向して向かい合う構成のタッチパネルと、該タッチパネルと信号の接続先を切り替えるスイッチ素子と、前記タッチパネルから出力される電圧レベルの座標検出信号動作をA/D変換するA/D変換部と、前記座標検出動作のモード、スイッチ等の切り替えの制御及び座標算出を行う制御部を有する座標入力装置において、前記タッチパネル上を押圧した時のみ対向して存在するプラスチックをとガラス基板との透明導電膜が接触することにより、印加されたDC信号が抵抗分圧されて座標信号を出力する座標入力装置。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 一方の面に透明導電膜を有するブラスッチック基板とガラス基板をスペーサーを介して対向して向かい合う構成のタッチパネルと、該タッチパネルと信号の接続先を切り替えるスイッチ素子と、前記タッチパネルから出力される電圧レベルの座標検出信号動作をA/D変換するA/D変換部と、前記座標検出動作のモード、スイッチ等の切り替えの制御及び座標算出を行う制御部を有する座標入力装置において、前記タッチパネル上を押圧した時のみ対向して存在するブラスチック基板とガラス基板との透明導電膜が接触することにより、印加されたDC信号が抵抗分圧されて座標信号を出力することを特徴とする座標入力装置。

【請求項2】 前記スイッチ素子がアナログスイッチからなることを特徴とする請求項1記載の座標入力装置。 【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、タッチパネルを用いた抵抗分圧方式座標検出による座標検出に関するものである。

[0002]

【従来の技術】従来の抵抗分圧方式のタッチパネルを使用した入力装置では、指もしくは専用の入力ペンを用いてタッチパネル上を押圧する事により、印加されたDC信号が押圧した位置による透明導電膜の直接の抵抗値により分圧した電圧値で出力されていた。

[0003]

【発明の解決しようとする課題】従来のタッチパネルでは、入力をしていない時でもタッチパネルにDC信号が印加されている電極と同面に存在する電極がグランドに接地されているために、透明導電膜の抵抗で消費するエネルギー分の損失がありバッテリー等で駆動する場合は損失が問題になっていた。

[0004]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明は従来の問題点に鑑みなされたもので、一方の面に透明導電膜を有するプラスッチック基板とガラス基板をスペーサーを介して対向して向かい合う構成のタッチパネルと、該タッチパネルと信号の接続先を切り替えるスイッチ素子と、前記タッチパネルから出力される電圧レベルの座標検出信号動作をA/D変換するA/D変換部と、前記座標検出動作のモード、スイッチ等の切り替えの制御及び座標算出を行う制御部を有する座標入力装置において、前記タッチパネル上を押圧した時のみ対向して存在するプラスチック基板とガラス基板との透明導電膜が接触することにより、印加されたDC信号が抵抗分圧されて座標信号を出力する座標入力装置提案するものである。

[0005]

【作用】本発明では透明導電膜を有するプラスチック板 とガラス板とで構成されるタッチパネルと、座標検出軸 (X軸・Y軸)と透明導電膜へのDC信号の印加を切り替えるアナログスイッチやFET等のスイッチ素子と、スイッチ素子の制御と、電圧レベルで出力される座標検出信号をA/D変換し座標を算出する制御部により、操作者の指や専用のペン等でタッチパネル上を押圧した時のみ、タッチパネル上下の透明導電膜が接触することで、片側の導電膜から印加されたDC信号が対向する導電膜の面へ導通し、抵抗によるDC信号の分圧が行われる。

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[0006]

【発明の実施の形態】タッチパネルを用いた座標検出においてタッチパネル面を押圧されたときのみ、片側の導電膜に印加されたDC信号が、対向する面の透明導電膜に導通する事によって、DC信号を対向して存在する面の透明導電膜上で抵抗分圧する。

[0007]

【実施例】以下、本発明を添付図面を参照して説明する。図1は本発明を使用する抵抗分圧式タッチパネル座標検出装置全体の概略図である。タッチパネル5は図2にて示すように、ITOで構成される透明導電膜18を有する可撓性の基板のブラスチックフィルム17と、ITOで構成される透明導電膜19を有する固定基板のガラス基板20をスペーサ21を介して対抗配置したものでありプラスチックフィルム17とガラス基板20の二枚重ねの構成となっている。

【0008】通常の座標検出の動作として、X側の座標検出の場合、タッチパネル5の点Pを指やペン等6で押圧した時、制御部11からの制御信号12によりスイッチ素子10を切り替えて、タッチパネル5上の電極4にDC信号15を印加する。スイッチ素子9は制御部11からの制御信号12により電極2をグランドに接続する。スイッチ素子8は制御部11からの制御信号12によりノンコネクト状態つまり、電気的に浮いている状態となる。スイッチ素子7の一方の端子7-1は制御部11からの制御信号12により、A/D変換部22へ接続される。A/D変換部22にてA/D変換処理を施した信号を制御部11へ出力する。これにより装置の構成としては図3に示す形を構成することになる。

【0009】実際の座標信号検出は、タッチパネル5の押圧された点Pの位置で、電極4から印加されたDC信号がガラス板20の透明導電膜19から、対向するプラスチックフィルム17の透明導電膜18へ印加される。この透明導電膜19へ印加されたDC信号は、電極1と電極2間の透明導電膜18の抵抗値により、電極1と電極20世の抵抗12と点12世の形之に分けられ、押圧点12から印加されたDC信号が電極12がグランドであるため12を12で分圧されて電極12から出力される。電極12からの信号をスイッチ素子12の端子12に送信される。A/D変換部12では、検出された信号をA/

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D変換して制御部 1 1 に送信する。制御部 1 1 では A/ D変換部 2 2 からの信号から X 軸上の押圧された点 Pの 位置を演算確定する。

【0010】次にY側の座標検出の場合について説明す る。制御部11からの信号12はX側座標検出の時と逆 論理となる。座標検出軸を切り替え制御する制御信号1 2のレベル (HiかLo) によって、スイッチ索子が接 続先を切り替える信号である。制御信号12により信号 を検出するスイッチ素子7はタッチパネル5の電極1に DC信号16を印加するようにセットされる。スイッチ 累子10の一方の端子は制御部11からの制御信号12 により、タッチパネル5の電極4がグランドに接続され る。スイッチ素子9は制御部11からの制御信号12に より、タッチパネル5の電極2をノンコネクト状態とす る。スイッチ素子8は制御部11からの制御信号12に より、タッチパネル5の電極2がA/D変換部22へ接 続される。A/D変換部22にてA/D変換された検出 信号を制御部11に印加する。これにより装置全体の構 成としては図4に示す形を構成することになる。

【0011】タッチパネル5の押圧された点Pの位置で、電極1から印加されたDC信号がプラスチックフィルム17の透明導電膜18から対向するガラス板20の透明導電膜19へ印加される。この導電膜18へ印加されたDC信号は、電極3と電極4間の透明導電膜18の抵抗値により電極3と点P間の抵抗R3と電極4と点P間のR4に分けられ、電極1から印加されたDC信号が電極4がグランドであるため、R3とR4で分圧されて電極3から出力される。電極3からの信号がスイッチ素子8を経由して出力信号13としてA/D変換部22に送信される。A/D変換部22では検出された信号をA/D変換して制御部11に送信する、制御部11ではA/D変換部22からの信号からY軸上の押圧された点Pを演算確定する。

【0012】ここで実際の動作について説明する。図1でタッチパネル5への入力を待っている状態の時、制御部11は制御信号12を出力し各スイッチ素子7、8、9、10に印加する。この制御信号12の論理がハイかローかにより各スイッチ素子7,8,9,10は、X軸もしくはY軸側の信号検出状態を保つ。このとき選択された検出軸側の出力信号13,14の状態は同じ透明導40電膜の対向する電極の片側がグランドに接続されているによりグランドレベルとなる。制御部11からの制御信号12によりX軸側の状態の場合、スイッチ素子10はタッチパネル5の電極4にDC信号15を印加する方に切り替わり、スイッチ素子7は制御部11からの制御信号12により導通状態となり、タッチパネル5の電極1をA/D変換部22に接続し、出力信号を制御部11人と接続する。(図5参照)

【 O O 1 3】 タッチパネル 5 を指やペン等で押圧しない 場合には、検出信号 1 4 は前述のようにグランドレベル 50

の信号を出力し続ける。出力信号 1 4 がグランドレベルの信号を出力している間、制御部 1 1 はタッチパネル 5 が座標検出を入力していないことを認識する事ができる。非入力時は透明導電膜が接触しないため、印加されたD C 信号が対向する透明導電膜面に印加されないため、分圧処理が行われないことになる。抵抗で分圧する事により消費する電流が座標検出時と比べ格段に少ない状態を維持している事になる。

【0014】次に操作者がタッチパネル5上へ指やペン等6で、点P上を押圧した場合を図3を用いて説明する。タッチパネル5上を押圧した場合、タッチパネル5の上側の透明導電膜18と下側の透明導電膜19が接触することになる。これによりタッチパネル5の電極4へ印加されているDC信号15が、タッチパネル5の下側の透明導電膜19へ導通する事により、DC信号は電極2がスイッチ素子9を介してグランドに接続されているため、点Pから電極1間のR1と点Pと電極2間のR2とで印加されたDC信号を分圧する事になる。

【0015】分圧された検出信号14は電極1から検出 され、スイッチ素子7の端子7-1を経由してA/D変 換部22へ入力される。A/D変換部22にてA/D変 換された信号を制御部11に送信する。制御部11では A/D変換部22からの出力信号を一定時間の間隔でサ ンプリングすることで、検出信号がグランドレベルでな くなった時点でタッチパネル5への押圧を確認する。こ れにより各スイッチ索子7,8,9,10は制御部11 からの制御信号12により、X側Y側の信号検出を開始 する。検出信号13あるいは検出信号14の信号レベル がグランドレベルとなった時点で座標検出を停止し、座 標入力待ち状態へ移行する事により一連の動作に要する 消費電流を低減することができる。尚、本実施例ではス イッチ素子としてアナログスイッチで説明したが、電界 効果型トランジスタ (FET) を使用しても、同様の効 果が得られるものである。

[0016]

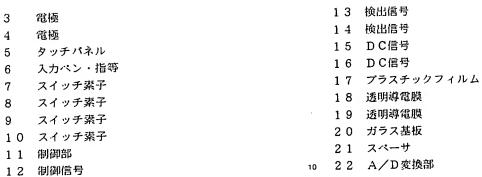
【発明の効果】本発明による座標検出装置は、タッチパネルへのDC信号印加をタッチパネル上を押圧されたときのみ、DC信号が導通し分圧する事により、タッチパネルへの入力がない時の消費電力を専用回路を用いることなく節約することが出来るため、バッテリ駆動の機器等への用途での長時間の活用が可能となった。

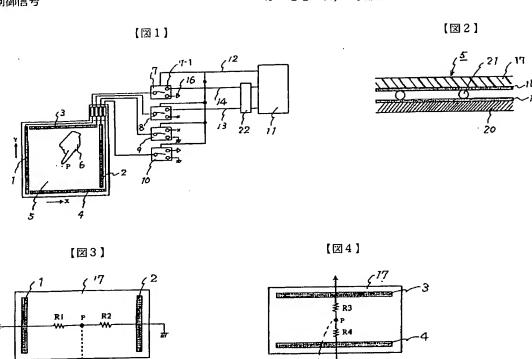
【図面の簡単な説明】

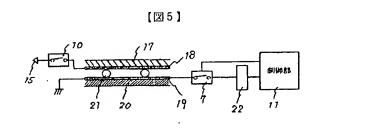
- 【図1】 装置全体プロック構成図
- 【図2】 タッチパネル縦断面図
- 【図3】 X側座標検出図
- 【図4】 Y側座標検出図
- 【図5】 座標信号検出回路構成図

【符号の説明】

- 1 電極
- 2 電極







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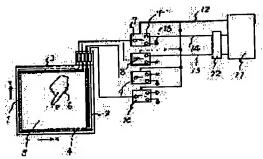
28.11.1996

(72)Inventor: SHIMIZU HIROYUKI

(54) COORDINATE INPUT DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To suppress the electric power that is consumed for the input queuing when the coordinates are detected via a resistance partial pressure type touch panel. SOLUTION: This coordinate input device is provided with a touch panel 5 containing a plastic substrate and a glass substrate which have the transparent conductive films and are placed opposite to each other on one of both sides of the panel 5, the switch elements 7 to 10 which switch the connection between the panel 5 and signals, an A/D conversion part 22 which applies the A/D conversion to the coordinate detection operation at a level of voltage outputted from the panel 5, and a control part 11 which controls the mode, the switching, etc.,



for the coordinate detection signal operation and also calculates the coordinates. In such a constitution, the transparent conductive films of both plastic and glass substrates set opposite to each other touch with each other only when the panel 5 is pressed. Thus, the applied DC signal undergoes the resistance partial pressure and outputs a coordinate signal.

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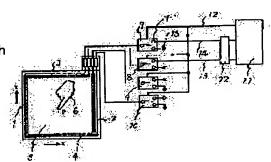
2)Date of filing: 28.11.1996 (72)Inventor: SHIMIZU HIROYUKI

i4) COORDINATE INPUT DEVICE

i7)Abstract:

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LAIMS

Claim(s)

claim 1] The touch panel of composition of countering one field and facing it through a spacer, in the plastic JTCHIKKU substrate and glass substrate which have a transparent electric conduction film. The switching device hich changes the connection place of a signal to this touch panel. The A/D-conversion section which carries out A/D inversion of the coordinate detecting-signal operation of the voltage level outputted from the aforementioned touch mel. The control section which performs control and coordinate calculation of changes, such as the mode of the orementioned coordinate detection operation, and a switch. It is the coordinate input unit equipped with the above, id when the aforementioned touch-panel top is pressed, and the transparent electric conduction film of the plastic ate and glass substrate which counter and exist contacts, it is characterized by carrying out resistance partial pressure id impressed DC signal outputting a coordinate signal.

Claim 2] The coordinate input unit according to claim 1 with which the aforementioned switching device is

paracterized by the bird clapper from an analog switch.

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ETAILED DESCRIPTION

etailed Description of the Invention]

he technical field to which invention belongs] this invention relates to the coordinate detection by the resistance rtial pressure method coordinate detection which used the touch panel.

0021

rescription of the Prior Art] With the input unit which used the touch panel of the conventional resistance partial essure method, it was outputted with the voltage value pressured partially with the direct resistance of the transparent ectric conduction film by the position which impressed DC signal pressed by pressing a touch-panel top using a iger or the input pen of exclusive use.

0031

roblem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] By the conventional touch panel, since the electrode by which DC signal is pressed to the touch panel, and the electrode which exists in this field were grounded in the gland even when having t inputted, when there was loss for the energy consumed by resistance of a transparent electric conduction film and it ove with a dc-battery etc., loss had become a problem.

004]

leans for Solving the Problem] The touch panel of composition of this invention having been made in view of the nventional trouble, and countering one field and facing it through a spacer, in the plastic SUTCHIKKU substrate and ass substrate which have a transparent electric conduction film The switching device which changes the connection ace of a signal to this touch panel, and the A/D-conversion section which carries out A/D conversion of the ordinate detecting-signal operation of the voltage level outputted from the aforementioned touch panel, In the ordinate input unit which has the control section which performs control and coordinate calculation of changes, such the mode of the aforementioned coordinate detection operation, and a switch When the aforementioned touch-panel o is pressed, and the transparent electric conduction film of the plastic plate and glass substrate which counter and ist contacts, it is the thing to which resistance partial pressure is carried out and impressed DC signal outputs a ordinate signal and which makes a coordinate input unit proposal.

unction] The touch panel which consists of a plastic sheet which has a transparent electric conduction film in this vention, and a glass plate, Switching devices which change impression of DC signal to a coordinate detection shaft :-axis and Y-axis) and a transparent electric conduction film, such as an analog switch and FET, By the control ction which carries out A/D conversion of the coordinate detecting signal outputted by the voltage level to control of switching device, and computes a coordinate, only when a touch-panel top is pressed with an operator's finger, the n of exclusive use, etc., because the transparent electric conduction film of the touch-panel upper and lower sides ntacts It flows to the field of the electric conduction film with which DC signal impressed from the electric

nduction film of one side counters, and the partial pressure of DC signal by resistance is performed.

0061 mbodiments of the Invention] Only when a touch-panel side is pressed in the coordinate detection using the touch nel, DC signal impressed to the electric conduction film of one side presses DC signal a resisted part on the insparent electric conduction film of the field which counters and exists by flowing on the transparent electric nduction film of the field which counters.

0071

xample] Hereafter, this invention is explained with reference to an accompanying drawing. Drawing 1 is the hematic diagram of the whole resistance partial pressure formula touch-panel coordinate detection equipment which es this invention. As drawing 2 shows, a touch panel 5 carries out confrontation arrangement of the plastic film 17 of

- e flexible substrate which has the transparent electric conduction film 18 which consists of ITO(s), and the glass betrate 20 of the fixed substrate which has the transparent electric conduction film 19 which consists of ITO(s) rough a spacer 21, and has plastic film 17 and two-ply composition of a glass substrate 20.
- 008] When the point P of a touch panel 5 is pressed by 6, such as a finger and a pen, as operation of the usual ordinate detection in the coordinate detection by the side of X, a switching device 10 is changed with the control gnal 12 from a control section 11, and the DC signal 15 is impressed to the electrode 4 on a touch panel 5. A ritching device 9 connects an electrode 2 to a gland with the control signal 12 from a control section 11. A switching vice 8 will be in a non connection state, i.e., the state where it has floated electrically, with the control signal 12 from control section 11. By the control signal 12 from a control section 11, one terminal 7-1 of a switching device 7 is nnected to the A/D-conversion section 22. The signal which performed A/D-conversion processing in the A/D-nversion section 22 is outputted to a control section 11. The form which this shows to drawing 3 as composition of uipment will be constituted.
- 009] DC signal which an actual coordinate signal detection is the position of the point P that the touch panel 5 was essed, and was impressed from the electrode 4 is impressed from the transparent electric conduction film 19 of a ass plate 20 to the transparent electric conduction film 18 of the plastic film 17 which counters. Since an electrode 2 a gland, it is pressured partially by R1 and R2, and DC signal with which DC signal impressed to this transparent etric conduction film 19 was divided into R2 between an electrode 1, the resistance R1 between Points P, and an extrode 2 and Point P by the resistance of the transparent electric conduction film 18 between an electrode 1 and an extrode 2, and was impressed from the pressing point P is outputted from an electrode 1. The signal from an electrode is transmitted by the A/D-conversion section 22 as an output signal 14 via the terminal 7-1 of a switching device 7. In e A/D-conversion section 22, A/D conversion of the detected signal is carried out, and it transmits to a control ction 11. In a control section 11, operation decision of the position of the point P of having been pressed on the X-is from the signal from the A/D-conversion section 22 is carried out.
- 010] Next, the case of the coordinate detection by the side of Y is explained. The signal 12 from a control section 11 rves as the time of the X side coordinate detection, and reverse logic. It is the signal to which a switching device anges a connection place with the level (Hi or Lo) of the control signal 12 which changes and controls a coordinate tection shaft. The switching device 7 which detects a signal with a control signal 12 is set so that the DC signal 16 ay be impressed to the electrode 1 of a touch panel 5. As for one terminal of a switching device 10, the electrode 4 of ouch panel 5 is connected to a gland by the control signal 12 from a control section 11. With the control signal 12 om a control section 11, a switching device 9 makes the electrode 2 of a touch panel 5 a non connection state. As for switching device 8, the electrode 2 of a touch panel 5 is connected to the A/D-conversion section 22 by the control and 12 from a control section 11. The detecting signal by which A/D conversion was carried out in the A/D-nversion section 22 is impressed to a control section 11. The form which this shows to drawing 4 as composition of e whole equipment will be constituted.
- O11] DC signal impressed from the electrode 1 is impressed [in the position of the point P that the touch panel 5 was essed] to the transparent electric conduction film 19 of the glass plate 20 which counters from the transparent extric conduction film 18 of plastic film 17. DC signal impressed to this electric conduction film 18 is divided into 4 between an electrode 3, the resistance R3 between Points P, an electrode 4, and Point P by the resistance of the insparent electric conduction film 18 between an electrode 3 and an electrode 4, and since an electrode 4 is a gland, it pressured partially by R3 and R4, and DC signal impressed from the electrode 1 is outputted from an electrode 3. It is signal from an electrode 3 is transmitted to the A/D-conversion section 22 as an output signal 13 via a switching vice 8. Operation decision of the point P which carries out A/D conversion of the signal detected in the A/D-inversion section 22, and is transmitted to a control section 11 of having been pressed on the Y-axis from the signal on the A/D-conversion section 22 in the control section 11 is carried out.
- 012] Actual operation is explained here. In the state where it is waiting for the input to a touch panel 5 by drawing 1, control section 11 outputs a control signal 12, and impresses it to each switching devices 7, 8, 9, and 10. As for each ritching devices 7, 8, 9, and 10, the logic of this control signal 12 maintains the signal-detection state by the side of e X-axis or a Y-axis by highness or the low. The state of the output signals 13 and 14 by the side of the detection aft chosen at this time serves as grand level by connecting to the gland one side of the electrode which the same insparent electric conduction film counters. It changes to the direction where a switching device 10 impresses the DC gnal 15 to the electrode 4 of a touch panel 5 with the control signal 12 from a control section 11 in the case of the ate by the side of the X-axis, and a switching device 7 will be in switch-on with the control signal 12 from a control ction 11, connects the electrode 1 of a touch panel 5 to the A/D-conversion section 22, and connects an output signal a control section 11. (Refer to drawing 5)
- 013] In pressing a touch panel 5 neither with a finger nor a pen, a detecting signal 14 continues outputting the signal

grand level as mentioned above. While the output signal 14 is outputting the signal of grand level, a control section can recognize that the touch panel 5 has not inputted coordinate detection. Since it is not impressed by the nsparent electric conduction film surface which impressed DC signal counters in order that a transparent electric nduction film may not contact at the time of un-inputting, partial pressure processing will be performed. the current nsumed by pressuring partially by resistance will be markedly alike compared with the time of coordinate detection, d will maintain the few state

014] Next, by 6, such as a finger and a pen, an operator explains the case where Point P top is pressed, using drawing o up to a touch panel 5. When a touch-panel 5 top is pressed, the transparent electric conduction film 18 of a touch-nel 5 top and the lower transparent electric conduction film 19 will contact. Since, as for DC signal, the electrode 2 connected to the gland through the switching device 9 when the DC signal 15 currently impressed by this to the extrode 4 of a touch panel 5 flows to the transparent electric conduction film 19 of the touch-panel 5 bottom, DC mal impressed from Point P by R2 between R1, Points P, and the electrodes 2 between electrodes 1 will be pressured

rtially.

15] The detecting signal 14 pressured partially is detected from an electrode 1, and is inputted into the A/Dnversion section 22 via the terminal 7-1 of a switching device 7. The signal by which A/D conversion was carried
t in the A/D-conversion section 22 is transmitted to a control section 11. At a control section 11, by sampling the
tput signal from the A/D-conversion section 22 at intervals of fixed time, when the detecting signal was no longer
and level, the press to a touch panel 5 is checked. Thereby, each switching devices 7, 8, 9, and 10 start the signal
tection by the side of the X side Y with the control signal 12 from a control section 11. When the signal level of a
tecting signal 13 or a detecting signal 14 turns into grand level, coordinate detection can be stopped, and the
nsumed electric current which a series of operation takes can be reduced by shifting to a coordinate input waiting
tte. In addition, although the analog switch explained as a switching device in this example, the same effect is
quired even if it uses a field effect transistor (FET).

ffect of the Invention] Since the coordinate detection equipment by this invention saved power consumption in case are is no input to a touch panel by DC signal's flowing through DC signal impression to a touch panel, and pressuring partially, only when a touch-panel top is pressed, without using a personal circuit, it became utilizable [a long time] r the use to the device of a battery drive etc.

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NOTICES *

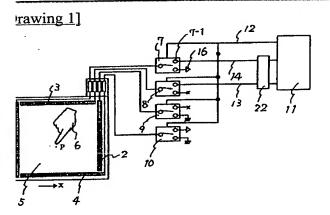
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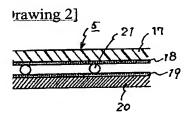
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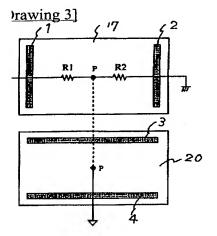
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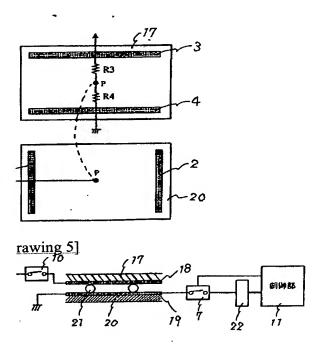
RAWINGS







<u>Orawing 4</u>]



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